

REMARKS

Applicants appreciate the Examiner's issuance of a Notice of Allowance for this application.

Amendments to Claims

In the Notice of Allowance, the Examiner made amendments to Claims 3-8. There appear, however, to be a number of typographical or grammatical errors in these amendments. Accordingly, Applicants are amending Claims 3-8 to correct these typographical and grammatical errors.

In addition, in light of the Examiner's amendments to Claims 3-8, Claims 154-159 appear to be duplicative of the independent claims. Accordingly, Applicants are canceling these claims.

Therefore, Applicants are merely correcting formal matters. No new matter has been added and the scope of the claims as allowed has not been changed.

Accordingly, this amendment can be entered without any further search or examination. Hence, it is respectfully requested that this amendment be entered and allowed.

Request To Consider Previously Submitted IDS In Furtherance Of Notice Of Allowance

On April 12, 2006, Applicants filed a Request To Consider Previously Submitted IDS In Furtherance Of Notice Of Allowance.

In the Request, Applicants advised the Patent Office that on March 17, 2006 (with a certificate of mailing of March 17, 2006, and before the March 23, 2006 mailing date of the Notice of Allowance), Applicants filed an IDS (received by the PTO on March 21, 2006). As this IDS was filed before the Notice of Allowance, it was respectfully submitted that the IDS should be entered and considered by the Examiner at this time.

Applicants again reiterate their request that this IDS now be considered by the Examiner.

Conclusion


It is respectfully requested that this amendment be entered and allowed in this application. It is further requested that the IDS of March 17, 2006 be entered and considered.

Please charge our deposit account 50/1039 for any fee for this amendment.

Favorable consideration is earnestly solicited.

Respectfully submitted,

Dated: May 16, 2006


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